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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

AIRGRAM

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Ambassy Phnom Penh

Nov 14 4 10 PM '62

FROM:

DATE:

SUBJECT:

Message from Cambodian Prime Minister to the President on Cuba

REF:

There is enclosed for the Embassy's information the text of the message dated October 28, 1962, addressed by Prince Norodom Kanthol, Prime Minister of Cambodia, to the President, on Cuba. Prince Kanthol's letter is a reply to the President's message to Kanthol of October 22, 1962. A translation of the message prepared in the Department, is also enclosed.

The message was delivered by Cambodian Counselor Um Amreth to Mr. H. L.T. Koren, Director of the Office of Southeast Asian Affairs, on November 6, 1962. Ambassador Nong Kimy was absent at New York at the time the message was delivered.

RUSK

Enclosures:
As stated.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MB

REVIEWED by *[Signature]* DATE *3/7/88*
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Drafted by:

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Contents and Classifications Approved by:

SEA - Henry L.T. Koren

Clearances:

S/S-S - Mr. J. Lloyd

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Enclosure No. 1

Text of Message from Cambodian Prime Minister to the President on Cuba

A SON EXCELLENCE MONSIEUR JOHN F. KENNEDY
PRESIDENT DES ETATS-UNIS D'AMERIQUE

Monsieur le Président,

J'ai pris connaissance avec beaucoup d'intérêt du message de Votre Excellence en date du 22 Octobre 1962 informant le Gouvernement Royal du Cambodge de la décision des Etats-Unis d'imposer une quarantaine nucléaire à Cuba. Qu'il me soit permis de vous en exprimer mes sincères remerciements.

Les derniers développements de la situation dans les Caraïbes ont été étudiés par mon Gouvernement qui voit avec une très grande inquiétude s'ouvrir une crise grave entre des puissances également amies du Cambodge. Aussi nous souhaitons ardemment que des négociations loyales permettent d'éviter une aggravation de la tension internationale et de donner une solution d'ensemble juste et équitable aux problèmes qui préoccupent le monde entier. Le Gouvernement Royal du Cambodge place sa confiance dans la sagesse et la volonté de paix des dirigeants des deux grandes puissances en conflit comme dans l'action bénéfique de l'Organisation des Nations-Unies. En ce qui concerne tout spécialement la question cubaine, mon Gouvernement adressera à la Délégation cambodgienne aux Nations-Unies des instructions précises pour appuyer toute action de nature à ouvrir la voie à un règlement pacifique sauvegardant les légitimes intérêts des pays en cause.

Je me permets à cette occasion de rappeler que le Cambodge menacé par des voisins puissamment armés a toujours et en toutes circonstances déploré l'appui militaire inconsidéré donné par les grandes puissances à certains de leurs alliés.

En renouvelant à Votre Excellence les sentiments de profonde amitié du Cambodge pour les Etats-Unis d'Amérique, je vous prie d'agréer, Monsieur le Président, les assurances de ma très haute considération.

Signé: NORODOM KANTOL
Président du Conseil
des Ministres

Phnom-Penh,

le 26 Octobre 1962.

Department's Translation of Text of Message from Cambodian Prime Minister
to the President on Cuba

TO HIS EXCELLENCY JOHN F. KENNEDY,
PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Mr. President:

I have read with great interest Your Excellency's message dated October 22, 1962, informing the Royal Government of Cambodia of the decision of the United States to impose a nuclear quarantine on Cuba. I thank you sincerely for that communication.

The most recent developments in the Caribbean situation have been studied by my Government, which views with very great concern the development of a serious crisis between Powers that are equally friendly to Cambodia. Consequently, we sincerely hope that negotiations in good faith will make it possible to prevent a worsening of the international tension and to reach a just and equitable overall solution of the problems confronting the whole world. The Royal Government of Cambodia places its trust in the wisdom and desire for peace of the leaders of the two great Powers now confronting each other and in the beneficent action of the United Nations. As regards the Cuban question in particular, my Government will give the Cambodian Delegation to the United Nations specific instructions to support any action of a nature to open the way to a peaceful settlement that will safeguard the legitimate interests of the countries involved.

On this occasion, I take the liberty of calling attention to the fact that Cambodia, which is threatened by powerfully armed neighbors, has always and in all circumstances deplored the ill-advised military support given by the great Powers to some of their allies.

Reaffirming to Your Excellency the sincere friendship of Cambodia for the United States of America, I beg you to accept, Mr. President, the assurances of my very high consideration.

Signed: Norodon Kanthol
President of the
Council of Ministers

Phnom Penh,
October 28, 1962